

REMARKS

By way of the foregoing amendments to the claims, claims 1-11 have been amended to delete the multiple dependencies, replace the words "characterized in that" with the word "wherein", and to make minor editorial changes. Also, the Abstract has been added to conform the application to the corresponding PCT Application No. PCT/EP2003/050614. No new matter has been introduced by these changes.

It is requested that the application be examined on the basis of the Abstract and the claims as amended.

Early and favorable consideration with respect to this application is respectfully requested.

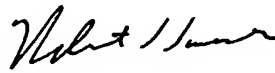
Should any questions arise in connection with this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that he be contacted at the number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

Date: December 17, 2004

By: _____



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